

**MINUTES OF
FAUQUIER COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
MARCH 27, 2002**

Members Present: William P. Jones, Chairman; Matthew Smith, Vice-Chairman; Harry Atherton; Gary Christie; Laurence Mason; Ann McCarty; R. E. Moore, Sam Poles and Liz Cook.

Members Absent: Per Bang-Jensen

Guests Present: Richard Robison, Planning Commission Chairman

Staff Present: Cameron Weimar and Fran Williams

1. Consider Approval of January 30, 2002 Committee Meeting Minutes.

On motion made by Harry Atherton and seconded by Sam Poles, it was moved to approve the January 30, 2002 Committee meeting minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Discuss Speeding Concerns Along Zulla Road.

Bob Moore stated that VDOT's review of the speeding concerns along Zulla Road should be completed within the next ten (10) days. When the speed study has been completed, he will contact Suzanne Lamb, the citizen who presented the concerns at last month's Committee meeting. Mr. Moore will update the Committee at the next meeting.

3. Consider Making a Recommendation to Post Signs for Additional Fines For Speeding Within the Village of Orlean.

Bob Moore stated that VDOT has had numerous complaints from residents in the Village of Orlean concerning motorists who exceed the 25 mph speed limit. Mr. Moore stated that it might be effective to impose additional fines for speeding through the area. Mr. Moore stated that the *Code of Virginia* allows VDOT to post these signs, which makes these additional fines legally binding in court. However, these additional fines are imposed at the judge's discretion. Liz Cook asked if these fines are imposed automatically if the traffic ticket is not protested in court. Mr. Moore stated that he is not sure if this is the case. Mrs. McCarty asked if these signs could be posted anywhere in the County. Mr. Moore stated that there are specific guidelines that must be met for these signs to be imposed.

Matthew Smith asked for clarification on who is making the speeding complaints. Mr. Moore stated that the most recent complaint came from Ann Davis, a resident of Orlean. Matthew Smith and Ann McCarty expressed concerns that installing the signs could lead to an excessive number of requests for these in the future. Bill Jones asked if this request involved a safety issue. Bob Moore stated that there are a number of safety concerns in the area, particularly the poor parking conditions at the Orlean Post Office, as well as the Orlean Market, which is getting busier.

On motion made by Sam Poles and seconded by Harry Atherton, it was moved to forward a resolution to the Board of Supervisors requesting that VDOT install signs advising of a \$200. maximum penalty for exceeding the posted maximum speed limit in the Village of Orlean. The

motion carried 7-1, with Matthew Smith being in opposition to the request and Per Bang-Jensen absent.

4. *Consider Making a Recommendation to the Board of Supervisors on the Six-Year Improvement Plan.*

Bob Moore stated that the Commonwealth Transportation Board's Regional Financial Planning and Programming Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 16, 2002 at 10:00 A.M. in the VDOT District Auditorium located at 1601 Orange Road in Culpeper. Mr. Moore reviewed the projects recommended for inclusion in the Six-Year Improvement Program.

Bill Jones stated that he has received a request in the form of a signed petition for a turn lane into Buckland Produce Sales, which is located north of Route 215. Mr. Jones noted that this is a dangerous location for traffic going west. There have been a number of minor accidents in this location. Bob Moore stated that this is on the Fauquier/Prince William County line and the area a turn lane would need to be located is in Prince William County. Mr. Moore stated that he will forward the information to the VDOT office in Prince William County after receiving it from Mr. Jones. Mr. Jones stated that he will contact the citizens involved to let them know what is taking place. Mr. Moore expressed concerns that installing a turn lane for one business could lead to requests from other businesses. Mr. Moore stated that this may need to be done by the commercial business itself.

On motion made by Harry Atherton and seconded by Ann McCarty, it was moved to forward a resolution recommending projects for inclusion in the Six-Year Improvement Program for the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) to the Board of Supervisors for approval. The motion carried unanimously.

Bill Jones informed the Committee that he will be resigning effective April 1, 2002. Therefore, Matthew Smith, the newly elected Committee Chairman, will attend the Commonwealth Transportation Board's Regional Financial Planning and Programming meeting on Tuesday April 16, 2002 to present the Board's resolution.

5. *Discuss the Process for Requests for Private Roads to Become Part of the VDOT Secondary Road System for Maintenance.*

Bill Jones stated that the Committee should continue to work on an automated process so that all records will be current as of the last meeting so that research will not have to be done each time. Bob Moore stated that he will meet with Matthew Smith, Liz Cook and Fran Williams to come up with a flowchart/spreadsheet format. Liz Cook stated that she has spoken with Paul McCulla, County Attorney, about considering how much research should be done by the citizens making the request and at what point should they come to the Committee. Paul McCulla has stated that the applicants should already have a title search, deeds drafted and a plat to dedicate the right-of-way prepared before citizens make a request to the Committee. This would alleviate the needs to use the County's limited funds for this purpose.

Harry Atherton stated that the Committee should have something in writing so citizens know exactly what is expected. Mr. Atherton stated that the most important issue is to determine if the right-of-way can be secured and if all the property owners involved agree to this. Matthew Smith stated that the applicants should be informed if only get one-half mile of a particular road is eligible for acceptance so that they do not go to the trouble of trying to get property owners two miles down a particular road to agreement to State acceptance. Mr. Smith stated that this should be kept on the agenda as an action item.

Liz Cook stated that the Committee could keep track of requests in an Excel program and then put the information on the County's web site in order to communicate with the public.

6. *Receive an Update on Tuckers Lane, Green Brier Road and Woodlawn Lane, Enon School Road, Wesley Chapel Road and Old Alexandria Turnpike (Route 693).*

Liz Cook updated the Committee on Enon School Road and Wesley Chapel Road. Mrs. Cook stated that in order to proceed with the abandonment of these roads, the Commonwealth Transportation Board would have to be notified, the property must be posted and advertisements made. Mrs. Cook will be meeting with Paul McCulla next week concerning this matter.

Liz Cook stated that she will identify the property owners on the approximately 0.10 portion of Tuckers Lane that will be affected.

Liz Cook stated that the Board of Supervisors acted at its March meeting to recommend the acceptance of Greenbrier Road and Woodlawn Lane.

Bob Moore stated that there is a narrow one-lane bridge on Old Alexandria Turnpike that needs to be widened because of the increased amount of traffic. Liz Cook stated that there was a proposed Comprehensive Plan Amendment before the Planning Commission to put a future signalized intersection in the Plan at the Route 29 industrial entrance associated with the Mill Run Business Park.

Bill Jones stated that he has received a letter from Paul McCulla relating to his research on Baldwin Ridge Subdivision. Liz Cook stated that she has received a follow-up e-mail from Paul McCulla, which states the matter is out of the County's hands and that the residents of Baldwin Ridge Subdivision will have to go to the surviving spouse. Liz Cook will communicate this information to Wendy West.

Bill Jones expressed appreciation to Bob Moore for the work done by VDOT to improve the line of sight on Kelly Road.

Bob Moore will prepare a cost estimate on the cost of an environmental study and other issues involved and present this information to the Committee as well as the residents of Baldwin Ridge Subdivision at the April meeting. Liz Cook will contact Wendy West so that she can be in attendance at the Committee's next meeting.

7. *Other Items.*

Bob Moore updated the Committee on the traffic signal planned for Marshall. VDOT has experienced some problems with utilities. Mr. Moore will be meeting with the utility company within the next two weeks to determine a timeline for the completion of this project. Mr. Moore also stated that a traffic-calming device will be installed in the townhouse complex in Marshall during the month of April.

Larry Mason expressed concern about the guardrail on a portion of Savannah Branch Road, which was the scene of a fatal accident. Mr. Mason requested that Bob Moore have his staff check to see if it would be feasible to extend the guardrail to protect motorists from veering off the road. Bob Moore stated that he will look into this matter.

Larry Mason stated that the reduced speed area near Route 17 near Liberty High School is not clear. Bob Moore will look into this matter.

Matthew Smith stated that the flashing lights near the entrances to Grace Miller Elementary School and Liberty High School need to be moved back further toward Midland because of a slight curve. Bob Moore stated that he will contact the School Board regarding these matters.

Larry Mason stated that VDOT's March 19, 2002 response letter to Mr. Graham still does not clarify where the money will come from for the Route 17/28 intersection in Bealeton. Bob Moore will look into this matter. Mr. Mason will schedule a meeting with VDOT in order to make known the Committee's ideas prior to the May or June Public Hearing.

On motion made by Larry Mason and seconded by Harry Atherton, it was moved to forward a recommendation to VDOT to consider more immediate and less costly alternatives to the proposed Route 17/28 interchange design. The motion carried unanimously.

Sam Poles expressed thanks to Bob Moore for VDOT's prompt response to citizen concerns on Route 732 and old Route 55. A study has been prepared and VDOT will install "Watch For Turning Vehicles" signs on each side of the intersection.

Liz Cook suggested that the Committee discuss the issue of private streets at its April or May meeting.

Richard Robison, Planning Commission Chairman, stated that he has spoken with David Cabbage of VDOT, who has agreed to consider the possibility of closing some crossovers as well as the addition of turn lanes to others. Mr. Robison stated that a fatal accident, which occurred recently on Route 29, has highlighted the seriousness of this matter. Bill Jones suggested that all crossovers be closed except where they crossover to another road.

On motion made by Bill Jones and seconded by Harry Atherton, it was moved to have the Committee conduct a study to see exactly which crossovers should be closed and then forward its recommendation to VDOT. The motion carried unanimously.

Bill Jones stated that he has submitted his resignation effective April 1, 2002, which will give Larry Weeks, Board of Supervisors member representing Scott District approximately six to eight weeks to find a replacement.

On motion made by Matthew Smith and seconded by Larry Mason, it was moved to give Bill Jones a Resolution of Appreciation for his six (6) years of hard work on behalf of the Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 P.M.